

CLAIMS

What Is Claimed Is:

5 1. A showerhead comprising, in combination:
a body comprised of a top hollow mating half having a pivotable inlet and a
bottom hollow mating half having a spray outlet;
the top hollow mating half and the bottom hollow mating half being held
together by matching threads formed at mating ends thereof;
a water filter assembly having an annular chamber with a plurality of inlet
openings and a plurality of exit openings and a filter media held therein; the water
filter assembly being secured in an internal chamber formed by the top hollow mating
half and the bottom hollow mating half; and
10 means in the internal chamber for directing flow of water from the pivotable
inlet through the water filter and out of the spray outlet.

2. The showerhead of claim 1 wherein the pivotable inlet is held in an annular
housing portion recessed into a top portion of the top hollow mating half, and is
sealing captured in an annular sealing member by a baffle element held between a
central dividing wall formed in the water filter.

3. The showerhead of claim 2 wherein the ^{shower}spray outlet is a massage head
movable between different spray positions.

4. The showerhead of claim 2 wherein the means in the internal chamber for
directing flow of water includes a first baffle means, an annular passage, and curved
inner walls at an upper end of the top hollow mating half, to direct the flow of water
into the plurality of inlet openings in the annular chamber.

5. The showerhead of claim 4 wherein the annular passage is formed between an
inner wall of the annular chamber and an inner surface of the annular housing portion.

6. The showerhead of claim 5 wherein the means for directing flow of water also includes the plurality of exit openings, an annular groove formed in a bottom wall of the bottom hollow half, a second annular passage formed by inner walls of the annular chamber below the central dividing wall formed in the water filter and inner walls of a central cylindrical portion, and a second baffle means.

7. The showerhead of claim 1 wherein the top hollow mating half has curved inner walls at an upper portion thereof, and the bottom hollow mating half has a massage head at a lower end thereof; the message head being movable between a fine spray pattern and a pulsating spray pattern; and the pivotable inlet is held in an annular housing portion recessed into the upper portion of the top hollow mating half, the pivotable inlet being sealing captured in an annular sealing member by a first baffle element held between a central dividing wall formed in the water filter and the annular sealing element.

8. The showerhead of claim 7 wherein the means in the internal chamber for directing flow of water includes the first baffle element, a first annular passage, and the curved inner walls to direct the flow of water into the plurality of inlet openings in the annular chamber.

9. The showerhead of claims 8 wherein the first annular passage is formed between an upper inner wall portion of the annular chamber and an inner surface of the annular housing portion.

10. The showerhead of claim 9 wherein the means for directing flow of water also includes the plurality of exit openings, an annular groove formed in a bottom wall of the bottom hollow half, a second annular passage formed by lower inner walls of the annular chamber, below the central dividing wall, and an outer surface of a central cylindrical portion, and a second baffle element.

11. A showerhead comprising, in combination:
a body comprised of a top hollow mating half having a recessed annular housing portion having a pivotable inlet held therein, and a bottom hollow mating half having a shower spray outlet;

the top hollow mating half and the bottom hollow mating half being held together by matching threads formed at mating ends thereof and forming an internal chamber;

a water filter assembly having an annular chamber with a plurality of inlet openings and a plurality of exit openings and a filter media held therein; the water filter assembly being secured in the internal chamber between annular wall portions formed in the internal chamber; and

baffle elements held in the internal chamber, on opposite sides of a dividing wall formed in the water filter assembly, for directing flow of water from the pivotable inlet through the plurality of inlet openings, out the plurality of exit openings, and through the shower spray outlet.

12. The showerhead of claim 11 wherein the dividing wall is formed in a central open portion of the annular chamber of the water filter and the shower spray outlet is a massage head movable between different spray positions.

13. The showerhead of claim 12 wherein a first of the baffle elements is held in the internal chamber before a first annular passage, and the internal chamber includes curved inner walls at an upper end of the top hollow mating half to direct the flow of water into the plurality of inlet openings in the annular chamber.

14. The showerhead of claims 13 wherein the first annular passage is formed between an upper inner wall of the annular chamber, above the dividing wall, and an inner surface of the recessed annular housing portion.

15. The showerhead of claim 14 wherein the means for directing flow of water also includes the plurality of exit openings, an annular groove formed in a bottom wall of the bottom hollow half, a second annular passage formed by lower inner walls of the annular chamber, below the central dividing wall, and inner walls of a central cylindrical portion, and a second baffle element.

16. A showerhead comprising, in combination:

a substantially cylindrical body having a top hollow mating half with a recessed annular housing portion having a pivotable inlet held therein, and a bottom hollow mating half having a massage head;

the top hollow mating half and the bottom hollow mating half having end portions formed thereon, which end portions are screwed together so as to form an internal chamber;

A water filter assembly held in the internal chamber, between annular wall portions;

the water filter assembly having an annular chamber with filter media held therein and a central open area bounded by inner walls; a dividing wall held in the central open area to separate the inner walls into upper and lower portions; a plurality of inlet openings and a plurality of exit openings in the annular chamber;

a first baffle element held in the internal chamber, on an upstream side of the dividing wall;

a second baffle element held in the internal chamber on a downstream side of the dividing wall; and

the first baffle element and the second baffle element cooperating with upper and lower surfaces of the dividing wall to direct flow of water from the pivotable inlet, around upper portions of the inner walls into the plurality of inlet openings, through the filter media, out the plurality of exit openings, around the lower portions of the inner walls and through the massage head.

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